

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Original) A slitter apparatus
2 comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having first and
4 second mating surfaces;
5 a second semi-circular member having first
6 and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed
7 first and second mating surfaces of the first member;
8 wherein the first member is engageable with
9 the second member to form on engagement a cylindrical
10 body;
11 a first rectangular land having a plurality
12 of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first
13 or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein
14 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces
15 of the first rectangular land are radiused;
16 a first rectangular recess having a plurality
17 of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first
18 or second mating surfaces of the second member;
19 wherein the first rectangular recess is
20 interengageable with the first rectangular land to
21 provide axial and radial alignment of the first member
22 with the second member.

1 2. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall
3 surfaces of the first rectangular recess are radiused.

3. (Cancelled)

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

1 4. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall
3 surfaces of the first rectangular recess are chamfered.

1 5. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 further comprising:

3 a second rectangular land having a plurality of
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or
5 second mating surfaces of the first member wherein the
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
7 second rectangular land are radiused;

8 a second rectangular recess having a plurality of
9 sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or
10 second mating surfaces of the second member;

11 wherein the second rectangular recess is
12 interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide
13 axial and radial alignment of the first member with the
14 second member.

6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 further comprising:

3 a second rectangular land having a plurality of
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or
5 second mating surfaces of the second member wherein the
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
7 second rectangular land are radiused;

8 a second rectangular recess having a plurality of
9 sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or
10 second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

11 wherein the second rectangular recess is
12 interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide
13 axial and radial alignment of the first member with the
14 second member.

1 8. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 wherein the first rectangular land is centrally disposed
3 inward from the outer edges of the mating surface from which
4 it projects and further wherein the first rectangular recess
5 is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the
6 mating surface into which it projects such that upon
7 engagement of the first member with the second member, the
8 first rectangular land and the first rectangular recess are
9 completely enclosed inside of the cylindrical body.

1 9. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim 1
2 wherein the first land is integral with the mating surface
3 from which it projects.

1 10. (Original) A slitter apparatus
2 comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having a first
4 mating surface;
5 a second semi-circular member having a second
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface
7 to form a cylindrical body;
8 a rectangular land projecting from the first
9 mating surface of the first semi-circular member
10 wherein the land includes no more than one planar
11 surface substantially parallel to the first mating
12 surface; and

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

13 a rectangular recess protruding into the
14 second mating surface of the second semi-circular
15 member wherein the recess includes no more than one
16 planar surface substantially parallel to the second
17 mating surface and further wherein engagement of the
18 land with the recess provides both axial and radial
19 alignment of the first semi-circular member with the
20 second semi-circular member.

1 11. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim
2 10 wherein the land includes a plurality of sidewall
3 surfaces projecting from the first mating surface wherein
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
5 rectangular land are chamfered.

1 12. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim
2 11 wherein the recess includes a plurality of sidewall
3 surfaces projecting into the second mating surface wherein
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
5 rectangular recess are chamfered.

13. (Cancelled)

1 14. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim
2 10 wherein the land includes a plurality of sidewall
3 surfaces projecting from the first mating surface wherein
4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
5 rectangular land are radiused.

1 15. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim
2 14 wherein the recess includes a plurality of sidewall
3 surfaces projecting into the second mating surface wherein

Parent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

4 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
5 rectangular recess are radiused.

16. (Cancelled)

1 17. (Original) The slitter apparatus of claim
2 10 wherein the rectangular land is centrally disposed on the
3 first mating surface and the rectangular recess is centrally
4 disposed in the second mating surface.

1 18. (Current amended) The slitter apparatus of
2 claim 10 wherein the rectangular land is integral with the
3 first mating surface.

1 19. (Original) A slitter apparatus
2 comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having a first
4 mating surface;
5 a second semi-circular member having a second
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface
7 to form a cylindrical body;
8 a land projecting from the first mating
9 surface wherein the land is centrally disposed inward
10 from the outer edges of the first mating surface such
11 that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member
12 with the second semi-circular member, the land is
13 hidden inside of the cylindrical body;
14 a recess projecting into the second mating
15 surface wherein the recess is centrally disposed inward
16 from the outer edges of the second mating surface such
17 that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

18 with the second semi-circular member, the recess is
19 hidden inside of the cylindrical body;
20 wherein the land includes a first pair of
21 planar alignment surfaces;
22 wherein the recess includes a second pair of
23 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the first
24 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of
25 the first pair of planar alignment surfaces with the
26 second pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land
27 is received in the recess provides axial alignment of
28 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-
29 circular member;
30 wherein the land includes a third pair of
31 planar alignment surfaces; and
32 wherein the recess includes a fourth pair of
33 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the third
34 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of
35 the third pair of planar alignment surfaces with the
36 fourth pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land
37 is received in the recess provides radial alignment of
38 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-
39 circular member.

1 20. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim
2 3) A splitter apparatus comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having first and
4 second mating surfaces;
5 a second semi-circular member having first
6 and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed
7 first and second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

8 wherein the first member is engageable with
9 the second member to form an engagement a cylindrical
10 body;

11 a first rectangular land having a plurality
12 of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first
13 or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein
14 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces
15 of the first rectangular land are radiused;

16 a first rectangular recess having a plurality
17 of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first
18 or second mating surfaces of the second member wherein
19 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces
20 of the first rectangular recess are radiused;

21 wherein the radius of each corner formed
22 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the first
23 rectangular recess is less than the radius of the
24 corresponding corner formed between adjacent sidewall
25 surfaces of the first rectangular land; and

26 wherein the first rectangular recess is
27 interengageable with the first rectangular land to
28 provide axial and radial alignment of the first member
29 with the second member.

1 21. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim
2 6) A splitter apparatus comprising:

3 a first semi-circular member having first and
4 second mating surfaces;

5 a second semi-circular member having first
6 and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed
7 first and second mating surfaces of the first member;

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

8 wherein the first member is engageable with
9 the second member to form an engagement a cylindrical
10 body;

11 a first rectangular land having a plurality
12 of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first
13 or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein
14 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces
15 of the first rectangular land are radiused;

16 a second rectangular land having a plurality
17 of sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the
18 first or second mating surfaces of the first member
19 wherein the corners formed between adjacent sidewall
20 surfaces of the second rectangular land are radiused;

21 a first rectangular recess having a plurality
22 of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first
23 or second mating surfaces of the second member;

24 a second rectangular recess having a
25 plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the
26 other of the first or second mating surfaces of the
27 second member;

28 wherein the first rectangular recess is
29 interengageable with the first rectangular land to
30 provide axial and radial alignment of the first member
31 with the second member;

32 wherein the second rectangular recess is
33 interengageable with the second rectangular land to
34 provide axial and radial alignment of the first member
35 with the second member; and

36 wherein the first rectangular land is
37 interengageable with the first rectangular recess, and
38 further wherein the first rectangular land is not
39 interengageable with the second rectangular recess,

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

40 whereby the first and second semi-circular members may
41 be connected together only in one way to form the
42 cylindrical body.

1 22. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim
2 13) A slitter apparatus comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having a first
4 mating surface;
5 a second semi-circular member having a second
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface
7 to form a cylindrical body;
8 a rectangular land projecting from the first
9 mating surface of the first semi-circular member
10 wherein the land includes no more than one planar
11 surface substantially parallel to the first mating
12 surface and further wherein the land includes a
13 plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting from the
14 first mating surface wherein the corners formed between
15 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land are
16 chamfered;
17 a rectangular recess protruding into the
18 second mating surface of the second semi-circular
19 member wherein the recess includes no more than one
20 planar surface substantially parallel to the second
21 mating surface and further wherein the recess includes
22 a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the
23 second mating surface wherein the corners formed
24 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular
25 recess are chamfered;
26 wherein the length of the chamfer on each
27 corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
28 rectangular recess is less than the length of the

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

29 chamfer on the corresponding corner formed between
30 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land; and
31 wherein engagement of the land with the
32 recess provides both axial and radial alignment of the
33 first semi-circular member with the second semi-
34 circular member.

1 23. (Re-presented - formerly dependent claim
2 16) A splitter apparatus comprising:
3 a first semi-circular member having a first
4 mating surface;
5 a second semi-circular member having a second
6 mating surface engageable with the first mating surface
7 to form a cylindrical body;
8 a rectangular land projecting from the first
9 mating surface of the first semi-circular member
10 wherein the land includes no more than one planar
11 surface substantially parallel to the first mating
12 surface and further wherein the land includes a
13 plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting from the
14 first mating surface wherein the corners formed between
15 adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land are
16 radiused;
17 a rectangular recess protruding into the
18 second mating surface of the second semi-circular
19 member wherein the recess includes no more than one
20 planar surface substantially parallel to the second
21 mating surface and further wherein the recess includes
22 a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the
23 second mating surface wherein the corners formed
24 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular
25 recess are radiused;

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1.

26 wherein the radius of each corner formed
27 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular
28 recess is less than the radius of the corresponding
29 corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
30 rectangular land; and
31 wherein engagement of the land with the
32 recess provides both axial and radial alignment of the
33 first semi-circular member with the second semi-
34 circular member.